



ENDEAVOR EXPLORERS

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ENDEAVOR CHARTER SCHOOL
Personalized Learning Public Charter Schools

NEWSLETTER

February 2021



MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

- Feb. 9** • Deadline to register for FCOE STEM Conference
- Feb. 10** • 8th Grade Student Zoom Meeting - 3:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11** • LAST Picture Day - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 pm.
- Feb. 12** • \$40 Catalina Payment Due
- Feb. 15** • President's Week Break - 19 No School
- Feb. 22** • Intent to Return form due
- Feb. 26** • ASVAB test will be administered @ 10:00 a.m.

MARCH

- Mar. 9** • WSCS Board Meeting
- Mar. 2** • Senior Photos Due (for slideshow)



PUBLIC NOTICE

WSCS BOARD MEETING March 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

This meeting will be by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

[CLICK HERE](#)
for more information



[CLICK HERE to Follow Our Facebook Page](#)

ATTENDANCE FORMS

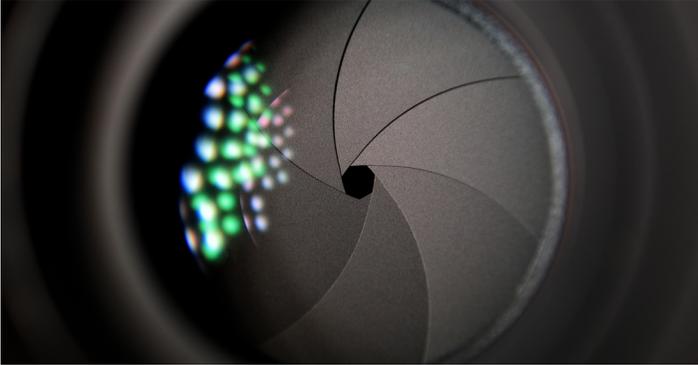


Elementary



High School

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Last Picture Day
February 11, 2021 • 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Fresno Campus • West Building

STEM Girls Conference
February 22, 2021
Location: TBD

Registration Deadline: February 9th

The Fresno County Superintendent of Schools is pleased to offer the STEM for Girls Conference sponsored by the Downing Planetarium. Experience a motivating keynote speaker and exciting break-out sessions by local women in STEM business and education on February 22, 2021.

This virtual conference is open for all, with a specific focus on students in grades 5-11. Powered by Chevron, the conference can be viewed almost anywhere and anytime after the 22nd. View videos featuring local women in STEM as they discuss their journey, passion and what motivated them to work in creative and energizing careers. Speakers include local women in agriculture, chemistry, social media and more!

Registration: Contact Amanda Patterson by February 9th at apatterson@wscsfamily.org for more information or to reserve your spot!

Access: Links and passwords will be sent out the morning of the conference. All registrants will receive access to the Facilitation Guide.

Keynote Speaker: Erica Toussaint, a local Chevron Engineer who grew up in Orosi. CA



FOLLOW ENDEAVOR ON

Instagram

@endeavorexplorers

CLICK HERE



INTENT TO RETURN FORM *for the 2021-2022 school year*

This year we are providing a Google form to make the process more streamlined. (Please see link included).

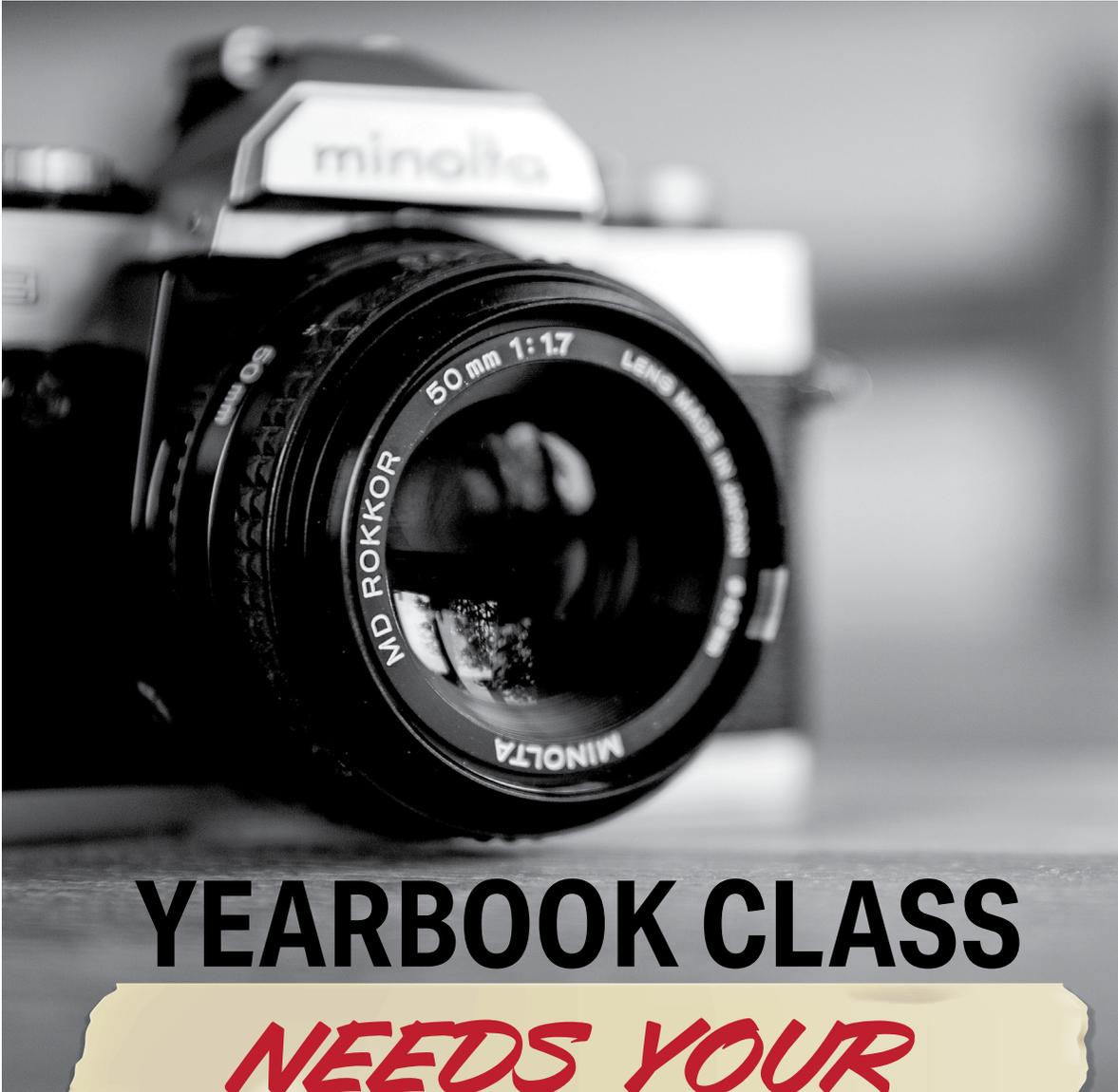
This information is very important for us in order to start planning and determining the needs of our families for the upcoming year.

Please fill out the Google form by Monday, February 22, 2021. If we do not receive a response from your family we will assume that you will not be returning for the next school year.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

[CLICK HERE](#)
to complete the form

Photo by Tirachard Kumtanom from Pexels



YEARBOOK CLASS

*NEEDS YOUR
PHOTOS*

Due to Covid-19, we need your at-home photos for
2020 - 2021 YEARBOOK!

Document your student's daily school activities.
Include your student's full name, grade and caption.

Email to Graphic Design/Yearbook teacher,
Mrs. Tu at jtu@wscsfamily.org

FEATURED FAMILY

The Wilhites

Margaret Den Hartog

Meet the Wilhites! Scott and Jessica Wilhite have 5 sons and have been committed to homeschooling from the very beginning. When asked why they chose homeschooling, Jessica replied, "...because the Lord laid it on our hearts, and we have never looked back." For the Wilhites, family time is a top priority, making homeschooling a perfect fit. They also believe that strong family relationships are vital for the development of positive character traits that will serve their boys well into adulthood. Jessica stated, "We want to spend our days fostering a relationship with our children built on love, respect, honesty, kindness, hard work, compassion and so much more."

Another top priority for Scott and Jessica is having the ability to lead their children's education. "We like being in control of what our kids are learning, and we can choose the curriculum that best meets each of our child(s) learning styles" she described, and discussed the benefits of the boys learning at their own pace, mastering content, and receiving one-on-one instruction when needed. Scott and Jessica have both observed the advantages of allowing their boys to "... dig deeper into topics that interest them, finding new interests they really enjoy - like robotics; computer programming; coding; creating new games; and keyboarding to name just a few."

When asked if there was anything else they wanted to share about their own homeschool experience, Jessica expressed her thoughts and feelings about our charter school and the role it has played in their homeschool experience. "Western Sierra Charter Schools has been a wonderful community that has become more like family over the past 5 years. The teachers and staff are amazing, supportive, caring, and have great professionalism. The atmosphere is friendly and inviting. We are appreciative that as we are



Scott and Jessica: Austin (7); Noah (13); Caleb (10); Jeremiah (11); and Preston (14).

the main educators for our children, our teacher is right alongside us for support, advice, and accountability. Our oldest son, Preston is a freshman in high school this year, and it's our first time diving into the high school world. We needed lots of help and guidance figuring out how to navigate high school courses and workload, since it's all new to us. WSCS has made the transition so smooth and

continue to next page



FEATURED FAMILY CONTINUED

The Wilhites

effortless. We couldn't have chosen a better charter school that supports our family values as well as their educational standards. Our son plans to enroll in college during his sophomore year of high school next year, which on one hand is exciting, but on the other hand, it's crazy to think we'll have a high school child attending college."

Scott and Jessica have over 9 years of homeschooling experience, and as such, they have valuable advice for new families. "The most important thing is flexibility - flexibility is key!" The Wilhites have homeschooled while dealing with sick kids, appointments, the dog eating schoolwork (literally), and much, much more. Still, they have made it work, learning to get work done... in the car or even the doctor's office. They report that "Learning can happen anytime, anywhere. Be flexible!"

Jessica also described the importance of making other homeschooling friends. "Build a community of friends who are on a similar journey - it will help provide support, friendship, and laughter. Have dedicated time to get together - let the kids play and moms refresh - it will be crucial to keeping a sense of balance amidst the chaos."

Finally, Jessica shared that new families must realize that homeschooling is a way of life - it is not scheduled from 8:00 to 3:00. In homeschool, everything is part of learning and new families should take advantage of the myriad of learning opportunities that may arise. "Homeschooling isn't separate from the rest of your lives. It is life, and it will color and touch everything you do."

RESOURCE SHOWCASE

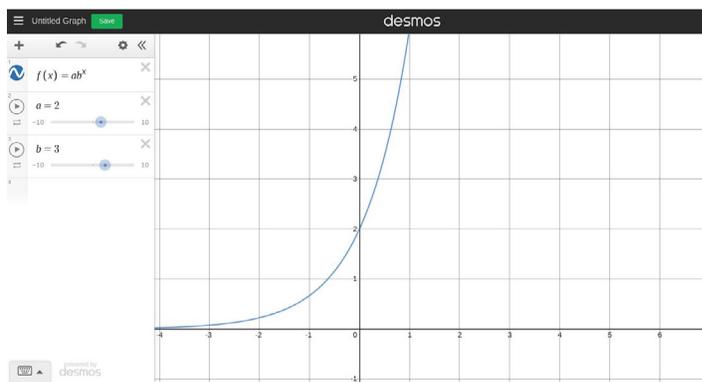
Desmos
Sonny Yang

Desmos is a free online graphing and teaching tool for middle and high school students. Although there are many features, my classrooms use Desmos for two main purposes: The Graphing Calculator and Desmos Class Activities.

We use Desmos as a visual way to introduce new concepts. When using the Graphing Calculator, students can input functions for Desmos to graph. It is a powerful tool, as students build a deeper understanding of various functions by changing values and seeing how that affects the graph. For instance, Integrated Math 2 students just learned about exponential functions (standard form: $f(x) = ab^x$). Instead of telling students how a and b affects the graph, we use the interactive simulation tool (called sliders) to investigate this relationship. The slider represents a given variable. When moving the slider, the value for that variable changes, which is simultaneously reflected in the graph. Using Desmos to facilitate instruction, students take a more active role in their learning.

Similarly, Desmos offers interactive Desmos Class Activities to either investigate new learning or to build a deeper understanding of concepts. The Desmos Class Activities vary, from card sorts as vocabulary review to fun games such as marbleslides. In the marbleslides activity, students transform linear/quadratic/exponential functions to send a marble to hit all the stars. Students work independently, allowing them to progress at their own pace. Teachers get real-time feedback on student progress. This allows the teacher to address individual student progress or to commence whole-class instruction to go over a more challenging problem. Desmos Class Activities are a great resource for distance learning, as students can work through these activities via Zoom and get instant feedback from the teacher.

CLICK HERE
 for Desmos



Marbleslides: Parabolas
 graphing, functions, quadratics,
 transformations

THE BREAKROOM

Staff Feature

MICHAEL MCGOUGH

Meet Art Teacher, Michael McGough!

Interview by Sandra Hammond

Title/Role: High School Art Instructor

What is your background/education? Master's Degree in Education Administration and Bachelor's Degree in Art Education with 40 years' experience in teaching and coaching for Clovis Unified.

What does a typical work-day for you look like? Getting students to understand that they can have fun and get a good education! But the educational process comes first and then the fun comes when they are engaged in the learning process and they have applied themselves to the learning process!

What do you like best about your career choice? The fun comes when you see a student starting to get it and they're having fun in the process of getting it! Now that's fun for a teacher as well as the student!

What is the first career goal you remember having as a young person? Did you follow any part of that original goal? I wanted to be a successful teacher and a successful coach and I've coached collegiate, high school, junior high school, and elementary, and I've been successful and rewarded at all levels - As well as an athlete. I have earned individual and team honors at all levels.

Family Make-Up: I am married with two daughters and five grandchildren.

Do you have any other interests/pursuits? I have a passion for cars. I own a 40th Convertible Corvette, 1965 Ford Convertible Falcon, '04 Harley V-Rod, 1984 Kawasaki GPZ 1100, and of course a classic 2011 Benz C350 and 2020 GLE Benz. I am a professional artist with showings, target shooting, archery, RC racing, slot car racing, model building and most of all I enjoy my Christian Art Ministry.



Photo by Steve Johnson from Pexels

HIGH SCHOOL



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

with Greg Hill

[CLICK HERE](#)
to Apply to FAFSA

Look for college/trade school scholarships for wherever you apply. Both community colleges and universities have opened their scholarship application window.

Seniors: Community Awards / Scholarship information
The General Application for Community Awards and Scholarships is March 19, 2021.

[CLICK HERE](#)
for more Information

Seniors: Graduation is quickly approaching!
Please visit the Endeavor website and click on Forms / Other Forms / Graduation Packet. Or click below:

[CLICK HERE](#)
for more Graduation Information

Here you will find General Graduation Information, Cap & Gown Information, Senior Slide Show Picture Information, and the Senior Questionnaire. Please go to the Endeavor website or click on the link above.

- Please email me your Cap and Gown info at ghill@wscsfamily.org.
- Senior Slide Show pictures and Senior Questionnaire is due to your advising teacher by March 2nd, 2021

Please email me at ghill@wscsfamily.org if you have any questions about anything!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: THE ASVAB TEST

ASVAB stands for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, which is a multiple-choice test that helps you identify which Army jobs (Military Occupational Specialties) would be best for you. This test is an excellent resource even if you are not planning on enlisting in the military.

10th, 11th, 12 grades: February 26th at 10 AM. Sign up at the front office (free).

Seniors interested in attending one of our local community colleges: (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College) may apply with priority registration through the "Registration To Go" Program.

Local Community College "Registration To Go" steps

1. Application: (Should have applied by now)
2. Online Orientation: Should be completed
3. Counseling / Advising with Student Educational Plan: Feb/March
4. Registration for classes: April if above steps are completed

SENIORS: FAFSA AND MONEY MATTERS

All seniors planning on attending any college or a career technical school: FAFSA application should be completed by now.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



ATTENTION
8TH GRADE
STUDENTS AND
PARENTS!

Photo created by freepik - www.freepik.com

You are invited to a virtual informational meeting regarding High School. We will discuss the amazing options available to Endeavor high school students. Come find out how we can personalize your high school journey to help you achieve your goals for the future. All Endeavor families are welcome to attend but we will be targeting current 8th graders.

Did you know many of our students complete high school with at least one year of college credit? Our students can obtain industry certifications to help them earn high paying jobs after high school. Our students are sought after by colleges and businesses alike. Don't miss out!

We will have plenty of time to answer your questions.

Hope to see you there!

Time: February 10th at 3:00 p.m.

Where: Join Zoom Meeting

CLICK HERE
to join the Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 973 6352 1189

Passcode: 640425

STAFF DIRECTORY

Endeavor Charter School

777 Shaw Ave • Fresno, CA 93704
Phone 559-248-0471 **Fax** 559-248-0482

NAME	EXTENSION	PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT
Eric Hagen	203	Co-Principal/Tech Admin
Nancy Garcia	202	Co-Principal Fresno
Marianne Lord	200	Admin Secretary
Rosanna Carrasco	222	Receptionist
Amanda Patterson	216	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Brandon Mallard	229	Adjunct Teacher
Brook Hirata	204	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Katelyn Carter	210	RSP Special Ed
Diane Vaccaro	206	TK-8 Advising Teacher and 9-12 Leadership
Grace Reeve	201	9-12 Advising Teacher
Greg Hill	220	Guidance Counselor
Irina Buca	205	9-12 Advising Teacher
Kathy Specht	225	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Margaret Den Hartog	207	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Nancy Flynn	228	Math Adjunct Teacher/Tutor
Nancy Turner	217	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Phil Blas	218	CTE Teacher/IT Coordinator
Sandra Hammond	215	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Sonny Yang	208	9-12 Advising Teacher
Stephanie Ganzenhuber	209	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Susan Huey	226	TK-8 Advising Teacher
Michael Cox	(559) 642-1422 ext. 102	WSCS Director
Jody Jeffers	(559) 642-1422 ext. 117	Chief Business Officer
Cheryl Wilhite	(559) 642-1422 ext 100	Administrative Secretary
Karen Fruth	(559) 642-1422 ext 110	WSCS SPED Coordinator

Email addresses for all staff are: first initial and last name @wscsfamily.org (no spaces)

SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Chugg - Math • Mrs. Friesen-English • Mrs. Gaviria - Spanish • Mrs. Kelly - Science • Mrs. Llanos - K Teacher
 Kelly Lord - Office and TA • Mr. Mena - Music • Ms. Mr. McGough - Integrated Drawing/Art • Mrs. Richards - English
 Bee Lor - Custodian